

Vision
Wellness, wholeness and understanding

Mission

To advocate for a system that supports persons impacted by mental disorders by assisting and facilitating their journeys to achieve the highest quality of life possible through education, early intervention, research and treatment

Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council
January 8, 2003
SeaTac Holiday Inn

Approved 2/12/03

In attendance: Gil Thurston, Chair, Joann Freimund, Vice-Chair, Graydon Andrus, Roger Bauer, Pat Calf-Looking, BJ Cooper, Diane Eschenbacher, Becky Kellas, Sondra Martin, Bonnie Scott, Janet SooHoo, Mel Watt.

Absent (excused): Jeanette Barnes, Lou Colwell, Glenn Graves, Alan Himsl, David King, Candy Manke, Jean Pond; Judith Stormbreaker.

Absent (unexcused): John Fisher, Dorothy Trueblood, Paula Zamudio.

MHD Staff: Kathy Burns Peterson, Karl Brimmer, Steve Norsen.

Guests: Barb Putnam, Donna Obermeyer, Josselyn Winslow; Eleanor Owen, Laura Fraijo.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Gil Thurston, Chair. The agenda was reviewed.

“Way To Go” awards

Gil Thurston nominated Aubrey Cohen from the Bellingham Herald for his articles on mental illness and poverty. A motion was made, seconded and passed to send him a “Way To Go” award.

ACTION: Gil will write a letter for the “Way To Go” award to be sent to Aubrey Cohen of the Bellingham Herald.

Review view of November 13, 2002 meeting minutes:

The minutes from November 13, 2002 were amended, approved and accepted. The dates of the next subcommittee meetings will be included in the Council minutes.

Review of November 13, 2002 action items

1. Gil Thurston will follow up with Tom Richardson about having Dr. Steve Shones speak to the MHPAC on cultural competence issues.

ACTION: Gil will report on this action item at the February 12 Council meeting.

2. Gil Thurston will follow up with Andy Pascua about Andy's concerns with the cuts to the DSHS language interpreter (LIST) program.

ACTION: Alan Himsl will be asked to discuss DSHS changes to interpreter services at the February 12 Council meeting.

3. Each Council Subcommittee needs to give Gil Thurston a letter about their need for staff at the subcommittee, roles, issues of not assigning staff, benefit to the Council, etc. so Gil can set a meeting with Karl Brimmer.

Discussion: The letters on staffing needs have been received from all the subcommittees. The consensus is that the MHD needs to have a presence for continuity and policy liaison. In addition, there is a need for someone to take minutes for some subcommittees.

ACTION: Gil will set up a meeting with Karl Brimmer to discuss Subcommittee staffing needs.

4. The Council requested training on the implications of the Advance Directives bill.

ACTION: The Legislative Subcommittee will review the Advance Directives bill with the MHD Legislative Liaison.

5. Graydon Andrus and Roger Bauer will represent the Council on any small workgroups that may be established as part of the MHD 03-05 biennium WAC/waiver/contract development project.

Disposition: Graydon and Andrus attended a workgroup meeting. The workgroup is struggling with clarifying the number and type of mental health modalities for the next RSN contract. The workgroup is very charged and highly technical. Another meeting of the workgroup is scheduled for January 22. No further action required.

6. Candy Manke, Jeanette Barnes and Sondra Martin will meet with Andy Pascua to develop a draft communication protocol for the Subcommittees for consideration at the January meeting.

Disposition: Incorporated into the revised Council Bylaws. No further action required.

7. Motion passed to support the MHD's implementation plan for increasing community residential capacity.

ACTION: Gil Thurston will request an update from the MHD on funding to implement the Residential Capacity study.

8. Motion passed for the MHD to consider bringing the Texas Medication Algorithm Project (TMAP) to fruition in Washington.

ACTION: Roger Bauer will give an overview of the Texas Medication Algorithm Project and other similar models at the February meeting.

9. Tom Richardson will work on drafting the by-laws of the new Subcommittees.
Disposition: Incorporated into the revised Council Bylaws. No further action required.
10. Gil Thurston will draft a letter regarding the Council's concerns with a Congressional bill that requires reporting to a national database of all persons with a serious mental illness and/or ITA commitment.
Disposition: Gil Thurston wrote a letter to Senators Cantwell and Murray expressing the Council's concerns and Senator Cantwell responded (**handout**). No further action required.

MHPAC subcommittee reports

Legislative/Administrative Subcommittee: Gil Thurston reviewed the minutes from the December 6 meeting (**handout**). The flyer on the Planning Council drafted by Ron Sterling was reviewed. It was moved, seconded and passed that the brochure be finalized at the next Legislative Subcommittee meeting. Wendy Long, the new MHD Legislative Liaison, will be invited to attend the meeting. The next meeting is January 14, 2003 from 10 to 3:30.

ACTION: The Legislative Subcommittee will finalize the Planning Council brochure.

Program/Planning Subcommittee: Joann Freimund reviewed the minutes from the November 6 meeting (**handout**). The next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2003 at SeaTac Holiday Inn from 9:30 to 2:30.

Children's Treatment and Services Subcommittee: Barb Putnam reviewed the minutes from the October and December meetings (**handout**). The next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2003 at Puget Sound ESD from 10-2.

Sexual Minorities Treatment and Services Subcommittee: Laura Fraijo provided a report on the Subcommittee meeting of meeting of December 6. The next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2003 at SeaTac.

ACTION: Laura Fraijo will forward the Sexual Minorities Subcommittee minutes to Kathy Peterson to distribute to the Council.

Older Adults Treatment and Services Subcommittee: Josselyn Winslow reviewed the minutes from the December 11 meeting (**handout**). The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2003 at SeaTac.

Ethnic/Cultural Minorities Treatment and Services Subcommittee: Janet SooHoo attended the December 2, 2002 meeting of the Subcommittee. She reported that a concern has been raised about the importance of an accurate count of ethnic minority representation in the Prevalence Study. The Subcommittee is working with Judy Hall and Ron Jemelka of the MHD on these concerns. The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2003 via conference call.

<p>ACTION: Hank Balderrama will forward the Ethnic/Cultural Minorities Subcommittee minutes to Kathy Peterson to distribute to the Council. In addition, a Subcommittee representative to the Planning Council will be designated.</p>

Other Subcommittee Reports:

Performance Indicator Workgroup: Kathy Peterson reviewed a handout prepared by Judy Hall on recent activities of the workgroup. Judy Hall will attend the Planning Council meeting in February to discuss this topic further.

Prevalence Committee: Kathy Peterson reviewed a handout prepared by Judy Hall on recent activities of the workgroup. Judy Hall will attend the Planning Council meeting in February to discuss this topic further.

Rehabilitation Council: Joann Freimund reported that the Vocational Council met on December 6. The Council is working on organizational issues in response to the leadership changes in the Rehabilitation Council, with a new chair and vice chair. The next meeting is in March 2003.

Consumer Roundtable: The Roundtable met December 6. BJ Cooper reported that the Consumer Almanac has been completed and is being distributed. The Roundtable will meet again in March.

Parent Council-SAFE Washington: No report available.

Ad-Hoc Bylaws Subcommittee: Joann Freimund reviewed the proposed bylaws developed by the Program/Planning Subcommittee (**handout**). Changes were based on the model presented by the National Association of Planning Councils in the training to the Council last fall. A motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt the draft Bylaws dated December 27, 2002.

<p>ACTION: Gil will sign the revised Bylaws and they will be submitted to Karl Brimmer for approval.</p>

MHD 03-05 WAC/Waiver/Contract Workgroup: Steve Norsen reported that one of the most controversial items being considered by the workgroup relates to the current WAC requirement for specialist consultation when serving children, older adults and ethnic minorities. An e-mail message from Steve to Gil Thurston was handed out. The e-mail poses five questions to the Planning Council in considering this issue, with a request for feedback. Steve provided an opportunity for the Planning Council to add three more representatives to the workgroup meetings to participate in the discussions. Steve also handed out a draft document of the current requirements and options for the future on this issue.

ACTION: Janet SooHoo, an Older Adult Subcommittee representative and a Children's Subcommittee representative will join the MHD workgroup meetings in addition to Graydon Andrus and Roger Bauer.

2002 Federal Block Grant Report

Kathy Peterson briefly reviewed the 2002 FBG report (**handout**). She is in the process of preparing a list of the requirements to fulfill the 2003 portion of the plan; however, there is insufficient funding to accomplish all of the indicators. The plan can only be amended by approval of the Center for Mental Health Services.

ACTION: Kathy Peterson will prepare a list of the 2003 FBG indicators that likely cannot be achieved. This will be presented to the Planning Council at the February meeting for review and decision. A request to amend the Federal Block Grant plan will be submitted to the Center for Mental Health Services for approval.

Director's report

Budget: The MHD is still conducting an analysis of the Governor's Budget to determine the impacts of cuts from other programs. This is a very difficult time, as the current deficit is estimated to be \$2.4 billion. So far it is known that Mental Health community programs lost \$40 million, which is primarily money that goes to the RSNs. In addition, almost \$1 million state funding for the King County Dangerous Mentally Ill Offender project was eliminated. Another area that was cut was a reduction of 65 FTEs to the Mental Health Division. It is hoped that this reduction will not result in additional ward closures. Due to the forecasted Medicaid increased caseload, MHD will gain \$51 million. However, because of the \$40 million community cut, the result is only \$11 million to serve the additional caseload. The negative impact of this cut could potentially be increased if there is a freeze of Medicaid eligibility under the proposed 1115 waiver.

Mental Health Summit: The Association of County Human Services initiated a request for mental health stakeholders to hold an in-depth discussion of the purpose of the mental health system. The Summit was held January 6 and was well attended. One immediate initiative that will be pursued is development of statewide levels of care and benefit package proposals for implementation through the MHD 03-05 WAC/waiver/contract project. The MHD is also preparing a bullet summary on budget concerns for

stakeholder use. The Summit was regarded as a very successful endeavor. Gil Thurston attended as the representative of the Planning Council and was very pleased with progress made toward decision-making to respond to the reduced budget.

ACTION: The draft list of budget concerns will be reviewed by the Legislative Subcommittee. The final list of budget concerns will be provided to the Planning Council.

Residential Capacity: The ward closure in April is the last hospital reduction currently scheduled.

Advance Directives: DSHS supports the concept of an Advance Directives bill. However, there are concerns with previous versions and discussions are continuing with the legislative workgroup to address these concerns. Providers in particular are concerned about potential additional workload.

MHPAC Membership

Kathy Peterson reported that there is one current vacancy for an advocate position. It needs to be filled by someone from the Older Adults Treatment Subcommittee. A motion was made, seconded and passed to appoint Josselyn Winslow to the vacant position.

ACTION: Kathy Peterson will prepare the paperwork for Josselyn's appointment to the Planning Council.

Next meeting: **February 12 in Olympia.** The meeting will begin at 9:30. Contact Sherrie Aho at (360) 902-0785 or Ahos@dshs.wa.gov for travel at least two weeks in advance. Members who will be absent must notify Gil Thurston or Kathy Peterson or the absence will be counted as "unexcused."

CALENDAR FOR 2003:

January 8, 2003	June 25,2003 In Yakima
February 12, 2003 IN OLYMPIA	August 13, 2003 4th annual all stakeholders meeting
March 12, 2003	October 8, 2003
May 14, 2003	November 12, 2003

Motion made to adjourn. Seconded and approved. Adjourned.